

TOP SECRET

6 July 1957

25X1 MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Question 24

25X1 1. Perhaps the most important and at the same time most difficult of all the questions submitted by the House Appropriations Committee to the Clandestine Services is number 24 which asks for a demonstration that the request [REDACTED] is "justified by accomplishments to date", and also inquires as to what we have obtained up to now "to reassure the Committee as to the value of our operations". This is a three-
ply question in that contributions are to be made by the three principal subdivisions of the Agency. However, as far as the Clandestine Services are concerned, it is believed that about all of the basic information necessary for the preparation of an adequate answer is contained in the attached material. What is needed is a drawing together of this material which has been contributed by the several Staffs and operating Divisions with much overlapping, duplication, and resulting confusion.

2. It is requested that you undertake as a matter of top priority to prepare a synthesis of this material in a form suitable for final editing by Mr. Helms and myself. In so doing, you should err on the side of being over full, since it is easier for us to strike surplusage than to re-include important omissions.

3. Also for your guidance, I believe that the Director wants to hit this one quite hard, i.e. to be quite forthright and even bold in our claims of successes (this does not mean that we should in any way exaggerate -- but rather that we should take full credit). This in turn means that the interests of security and policy must bow to some extent, since otherwise the claims could not be made. My best advice in this connection would be to suppress operational details and avoid the use of "sinister" and "flamboyant" terminology; and in lieu of such language to substitute or employ throughout "benign" and "constructive" terminology, e.g. "We have assisted so-and-so-many free governments in protecting themselves against the subversive attempts of the Soviet and International Communist apparatus to overturn them."

4. Finally, I think it would be most helpful to you if it were possible to locate and draw from several papers which I distinctly recall having been written in the past and which have contained forms of expression and language of the sort which should be employed here. Also,

TOP SECRET

- 2 -

tributes paid to our efforts by other departments and organizations of this Government, as well as foreign governments, could usefully be included or interlarded. For example, the Secretary of State declared

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

5. We would appreciate it if you could have your redraft in the hands of [] by close of business 9 July.

[]

25X1

FRANK G. WISNER
Deputy Director (Plans)

Attachments - Question 24 - 2 copies.

Page Denied

Next 31 Page(s) In Document Denied